

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0010] A reference directed toward reissuing digital tokens in an open metering system is described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,157,919 ~~6,157,911~~, issued to Cordery, et al. on Dec. 5, 2000 and incorporated herein by reference.

[0046] A parcel shipper uses a sender's sender's web browser 220 to send a printing request 201 to the postage broker web server 224. The sender's sender's web browser 220 and postage broker server 224 perform authentication 202b. The postage broker server 224 sends a printing request 203 to the IBDS server 228. The postage broker server 224 and the IBDS server 228 perform authentication 202a.

[0049] The HTML page is sent 211b to the broker web server 224 using a secure channel 226 and then may be optionally modified before being sent 212 to the sender's sender's web browser 220. For example, the broker may brand the page using broker graphics. The HTML page may contain the label image 240 or may contain a link to a postage label image 240 stored on the IBDS dispense web server 234. The user then prints the HTML page using printer 222 or retrieves the postage label image from the link and then prints.

[0060] Referring to FIGS. 4-7, an illustrative system and method for preventing duplicate printing in a web browser according to an illustrative embodiment of the present application is described. In the preferred embodiment, the system does not download an application to the user's user's computer. In an alternative embodiment, a small program such as a java program with the same functions described below that can be executed in a browser-based virtual machine could be utilized.

[0075] The IBDS system may provide templates and/or API to the postage broker for development of the customer pages. Alternatively, the postage broker may design a web page for the end-user's end-user's machine that meets the above constraints. The web page to be created in a new browser window on the user's user's computer has all menus, toolbars, scrollbars and status bars removed from the browser window implementation. Keystroke panning and any other user control such as window resizing is also disabled. Such a browser window is said to be secure as the user is unable to change any of the settings.

[0086] In step 822, the process again polls the user in order to determine whether the reprint was successful. If the reprint was not successful, the process proceeds to step 824 and logs the unsuccessful print. In step 826, the process offers a refund and then in step 828, the process marks the delivery confirmation code invalid. The process then proceeds to step 830.

[0086.1] If the process logged a successful print in step 838, it proceeds to step 840 to periodically check for delivery confirmation scans. In step 842, the process determines is a code is scanned. If not, the process returns to step 840. If the code is scanned, the process continues to step 844 and determines if the package was delivered. If the package was not delivered, the process returns to step 840. If the package was delivered, the process proceeds to step 846 to log that the package was delivered. The process then proceeds to step 830.

[0086.2] In step 830 the process periodically checks for delivery confirmation scans. In step 832, the process determines is a code is scanned. If the code has been scanned, the process continues to step 836 to report fraud. If the code has not been scanned, process proceeds to step 834. In step 834, the process determines if the code scan time is up. If the time is not expired, then the process returns to step 830. If the time has expired, the process then exits in step 850.

[0091] Co-pending, commonly owned U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/707,508 ~~TBD~~, filed herewith, is entitled System And Method For Preventing Duplicate Printing In A Web Browser ~~Ser. No.~~ [[_____]] (attorney docket no. F-684-01) and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0092] Co-pending, commonly owned U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/707,510 ~~TBD~~, filed herewith, is entitled Systems and Methods for Facilitating Refunds of Unused Postage ~~Ser. No.~~ [[_____]] (attorney docket no. F-775) and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.